

The Daily Charge

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

Telling the MND-Baghdad Story

Friday, March 2, 2007



(Photo by Spc. Terry Self 1-7 FA)

Knowledge is power!

Capt. Timothy Lynch quizzes an Iraqi boy on his English lesson during a humanitarian aid mission to a western Baghdad neighborhood. Troops from 1st Battalion, 7th Artillery Regiment delivered supplies to two neighborhood schools.

Troops, Al Rashid Farmer's Union distribute fertilizer

By 1st Lt. Hayden Scardina
1-40 Cav.

FORWARD OPERATING BASE FALCON, Iraq - The Al Rashid Nahia Farmers Union and paratroopers from 1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division worked together to sell 3,100 bags of a fertilizer to union members at a discounted price in the southern

Baghdad Al Rashid district Feb. 27.

A civil affairs team, attached to 1-40th Cavalry, advised the council and arranged to provide security for the union distribution sites and council members as they move the union's profits from Al Rashid to a local bank.

The farmer's union is managed by an eight member council, representing the eight tribes in the local area. The farmer's union has 3,000 registered members.

Members are entitled to use one of the

nine union tractors and purchase discounted seed, fertilizer, and plastic for greenhouses. Recently, the farmer's union has assumed a greater role as membership and profits increase.

Three units from 1-40 Cavalry participated in the fertilizer distribution.

The squadron forward support company, Company D, 725th Brigade Support

See Farm Page 2



(U.S. Army photo)

Farmers from the Al Rashid district in southern Baghdad wait in line at a fertilizer distribution site operated by the local farmer's union members Feb. 27.

Soldiers provide security during fertilizer distribution

Farm

From Page 1

Battalion, provided a distribution platoon to transport the 3,100 uriyah fertilizer bags.

Troop B, 1-40th Cavalry provided security at the distribution and dealt with one incident at the event.

They identified unexploded ordnance near the distribution site which was

secured, while an explosive ordnance disposal team was called in to retrieve it.

A civil affairs team and the squadron executive officer, Maj. Tim Davis, a native of Norfolk, Va., oversaw the effort and meet with local tribal leaders.

"Supporting the local economy by working with the farmer's union is a fulfilling part of our job in this area," said Davis.

"The interaction between us, the local

community, local tribal leaders and the Nahia government is what makes a positive impact here," added Capt. Ray Buenteo, civil affairs team leader and Salem Keizer, Ore. native.

"Supporting the farmer's union improves the local economy and fosters a sense of cooperation between U.S. forces and the local population which helps to create a safe and secure Iraq," he said.

Arabic Phrase of the Day

juuaan

Defined:
hungry

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today

High: 68
Low: 48



Tomorrow

High: 70
Low: 48



Sunday

High: 74
Low: 48

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr.
Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl
Command Information Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen
NCOIC, Print Production: Sgt. Michael Garrett
Editor: Spc. Shea Butler
Staff Writers: Sgt. Nicole Kojetin, Spc. L.B. Edgar, Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma, Pfc. Ben Gable, Pfc. William Hatton
Contributing Writers: 1st Lt. Hayden Scardina, Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp

Contact the *Daily Charge* at VOIP 242-4093, DSN 318-847-2855 or e-mail david.j.larsen@mnd-b.army.mil.

The *Daily Charge* is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *Daily Charge* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of the *Daily Charge* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.

Massive cache found in Baghdad

2-10 Mtn. Public Affairs

YUSUFIYAH, Iraq - Multi-National Division - Baghdad troops found and seized a massive weapons cache along one of Baghdad's main highways Feb. 28.

Soldiers from Company A, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment "Golden Dragons," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) discovered the cache while conducting a combat patrol along Mulla Fayad Highway, west of Yusufiyah.

The cache consisted of two Sanger missiles with launch tubes, 200 meters of fuse, 1000 12.7mm Dishka rounds, two 122mm rockets, 18 60mm mortar rounds, 80 hand grenades, six rocket stabilizers, 10 120mm mortar tail fins, 100 60mm mortar fuses, five 106mm artillery rounds, one 57mm rocket, one rocket-propelled grenade, one 57mm anti-aircraft round, two RPG-9s, 60

120mm mortars, two unknown mortar rounds, one RPG launcher, one 60mm mortar illumination round, one Dishka heavy machinegun receiver, 20 canisters, 10 cylinders of homemade explosives, 2000 7.62mm rounds, 14 57mm rockets, 40 pounds of homemade explosives and 200 ZPU-1 anti-aircraft rounds.

"The (find) will put a dent in the terrorists' ability to make improvised explosive devices," said Maj. Brock Jones, the executive officer with the Golden Dragons and a native of Lakewood, Ohio.

"The Soldiers did well today - their familiarity with the area of operations allowed them to locate the cache," he said.

The battalion continues to search the area for more caches. The cache was destroyed during a controlled detonation conducted by an explosive ordnance team.



(U.S. Army photo)

Thirty 120mm mortar rounds are laid out for inventory following a massive weapons cache discovered by Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment "Golden Dragons," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division along Mullah Fayad Highway, just west of Yusufiyah, Iraq Feb. 28.

Baghdad in Brief

Task Force Iron Claw finds booby-trapped vehicle

YUSUFIYAH, Iraq - A burned-out vehicle on a rural Iraqi road proved to be a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device when it was investigated by Soldiers March 1 near here. The vehicle was found along a road outside Yusufiyah, Iraq, near a settlement known to coalition forces as Janabi Village.

Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry)'s Task Force Iron Claw noted wires leading out of the trunk of the vehicle at approximately 1 p.m. and called for an explosive ordnance disposal team to investigate further.

The vehicle was destroyed by EOD with a controlled detonation. The ordnance in the trunk could not be identified.

Men captured while emplacing explosive device

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq - Two men were arrested while attempting to emplace an improvised explosive device on a major Iraqi highway Feb. 27 near Camp Striker, Iraq.

Soldiers of Troop A, 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) were patrolling Route Tampa, the main highway running in and out of Baghdad, at approximately 10:30 p.m. when they spotted two men crawling in a canal on the south side of the road.

The troops stopped the men and searched them, discovering that they had a U.S.-made night-vision tool. A further search of the area revealed an IED ready to be emplaced.

The IED consisted of six 57mm rounds in a bag about 200 meters from the road, as well as a video camera, a washing-machine timer, a pressure plate and a blasting cap.

The men were detained for further questioning.

Soldiers work with Iraqi troops in cordon, search

By Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp
1-1 Cav. Public Affairs

FALAHAT, Iraq - As the morning begins, Soldiers from Troop D, 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, attached to the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, have not even had time to yawn and they're already getting their vehicles ready to go on a mission in search of terrorists.

This was the case as Troop D Soldiers readied themselves for a cordon and search mission Feb. 26 here.

The day's operation involved the Troop D Soldiers linking up with Iraqi Army troops from the 2nd Brigade, 9th Iraqi Army Division (Mechanized) to search four houses and a chicken coop for members of insurgent cells, weapons caches and other terrorist-related materials and information.

Working with Iraqi Army troops to clean terrorists out of the neighborhoods of the vil-



Spc. Kenrick Schlueter, with Troop D, 1st Bn., 82nd FA Regt., searches drawers in a house Feb. 26 in Falahat, Iraq during a cordon and search operation.



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp 1-1 Cav. Public Affairs)

Soldiers from 1st Bn., 82nd FA Regt. and Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Joshua Vanorden (second from the right), a dog handler, come to a halt while moving through a field during a cordon and search operation Feb. 26 in Falahat, Iraq.

lage has been a worthwhile experience, said Troop D Soldiers.

"The majority of the IA soldiers are really good at what they do, and they continue to get better at their jobs," said Sgt. Juan Cajas, a forward observer and squad leader for Troop D, who hails from Queens, N.Y. "The more we help the Iraqis, the better their country will be for it, and eventually they'll be trained up and ready for the day when we're not here."

During the operation, the Soldiers took time to talk to villagers for information that may lead to the capture of insurgents.

Besides house searches, the Soldiers working with the Iraqi troops also searched for weapons caches in a field—which has been a known hiding place for caches in the past—with a dog handler and his German shepherd from a canine unit on Camp Taji.

Patrolling through a field

for long distances for many hours at a stretch, the Soldiers said they always find ways to keep the job from getting too tiring.

"Our Soldiers are highly motivated and as long as we stay motivated we have no problems," said Cajas who often finds himself patrolling the streets of the village or out looking for terrorists responsible for emplacing improvised explosives. "Cohesion keeps us going—we're a team."

But when things get serious, such as in the event they're attacked, they're ready for anything that comes their way, Cajas said.

"They're the eyes watching each others back," said Cajas of his Soldiers. "I'm from the old school of stay awake, stay alive so I teach my Soldiers to remember what we've trained on and what we've practiced."

"The fact that I've been to Iraq before has helped me to teach my Soldiers what to do and what not to do," added Cajas who is serving his second

tour in Iraq.

Troop D Soldiers said they enjoy their missions and that they are having a meaningful experience—especially when it comes to working with the Iraqi people to get insurgents and weapons caches out of their neighborhoods.

"We can make a significant difference with what we're doing here and I feel really good about it," said Spc. Ryan Field, a forward observer with D Troop and a native of Ponca, Okla. "I feel great about helping the Iraqi people, it's definitely a different world than back home in the U.S."

Although the day's mission did not yield any weapons caches or lead to the capture of any insurgents, anytime the Soldiers are out doing their part, they said, it's a good mission.

"Anything we can do to help, while at the same time protecting and serving our own country, makes us feel proud to be a small part of something much larger," added Field.

There's nothing like a good sports flick

By Pfc. William Hatton
7th MPAD

What is it about sports movies? Every year more and more are made. What is it that draws us to these movies?

Typically, a good sports movie has an underdog, an antagonizing figure, an unlikely goal, and a lot of spirit. Sports movies are also typically based on a true story.

They all seem to have a formula to them. In my opinion, they are all the same story with different characters and a few changes here and there. But does this mean they aren't any good? No.

I watched a sports movie recently that was much like every other sports movie ever made, but I enjoyed it, nonetheless. The movie was *Invincible*, starring Mark Wahlberg.

As I started to watch the movie I was in the middle of playing a video game. Time is a commodity in Iraq, so I tried to do two things at once.

As the movie started off, I got more and more into it and ended up putting down the controller. So, let's just say the movie is captivating from the beginning.

The story is about Vince Papale (Wahlberg), an Average Joe bartender who is a diehard Philadelphia Eagles

DVD Hunt

Pfc. William
Hatton

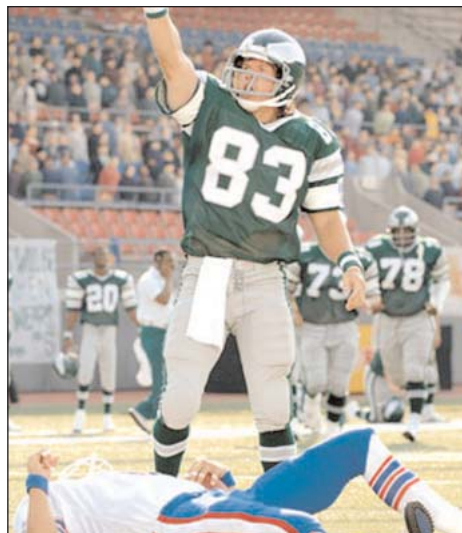


Photo courtesy of Disney

Mark Wahlberg in Disney's *Invincible* fan.

After a horrible season, the Eagles hire a new coach who institutes an open tryout for anyone interested in playing

for the team.

After being pressured by his friends, Papale attends the tryout, where he succeeds and gains a spot playing for the Eagles.

From getting accepted to the team to the opening game, Papale has people all around him who doubt and continually tell him he won't make it.


The movie is basically Papale's story of working hard to go from being a fan to playing as a pro and overcoming all adversities.

I think the reason I liked this movie, and why people love movies like this, is because it has heart. It's a movie of inspiration and motivation. People watch movies like this because we like to see a protagonist succeed and triumph over adversity, whatever kind it is.


Papale had numerous critics and doubters telling him that he'd be nothing more than a nobody. To see him overcome his personal adversities and simply push himself further and further is heart-felt. If you're in the mood for a good movie, then I recommend *Invincible*. It has all the ingredients to get you to put down that video game controller.


I give this movie 4 out of 5 golden spurs.





**OPERATION IRAQI
FREEDOM**





Stop before you act, don't rush into a situation or mission without considering the risks against the benefits.

Think about what you are about to do, what is the right way to safely accomplish the task.

Observe the situation and surrounding environment. What are the Risks? How can I reduce them?

Plan. Develop your plan to reduce the risks and decide how to best implement the plan.

Proceed with Safety. Supervise continuously and Constantly look for ways to improve.